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INFORMATION PAPER

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Subj: COMBINED RECRUIT TRAINING AT MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT UPDATE

1. Purpose. To inform the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) on the current status of gender integrated training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, to include the analysis, lessons learned, and future plans gleaned from the January 2019 training cycle.

2. Background. On 5 Jan 2019, 3d Recruit Training Battalion aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island (MCRD PI) executed their training cycle with one female platoon combined with five male platoons. The 'combined training model' was used as a method to gain efficiency as the number of female recruits is significantly fewer during winter months.

a. The combined training company is co-located, gender-separate, and conducting the scheduled Program of Instruction without deviation. Throughout this training, the Marine Corps remains in compliance with all applicable Title 10 requirements for separate housing and privacy.

3. Key Points

a. India Company, 3d Recruit Training Battalion, aboard MCRD PI graduated on 29 Mar 2019, as the first Marines to complete the 'combined training model'. The Marines performance statistics reflected no significant variations when compared to other training companies.

b. Due to the Master Projection Plan (MPP), a synchronized shipping model to align school allocations between the MCRDs, SOI and Formal Learning Centers, execution of an additional combined model in FY19 was not feasible without negative impacts to the production of basically trained Marines. There is potential to execute the model in FY20; however, alignment of the MPP between Marine Corps Recruiting Command, the MCRDs, and TRNGCMD is the first priority.

4. Way Ahead. Marine Corps Recruit Training combined training may continue to be conducted based on logistical and operational requirements. The Marine Corps constantly examines and evaluates our training to ensure its effectiveness, and implement changes based on validated requirements. Our current recruit training model produces outstanding results, and must ensure deliberate action when applying potential long-term modifications. When making changes, we are ever mindful that we must be careful not to do anything that compromises our combat capability.

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